

Site: *Syntex, Verona*
ID #: *100007458/54*
Break: *11.6*
Other: *Michaels, Edward*
0751 8-13-74

TES

Notes on Conversations and Interviews of EPI-75-17-1

2,4,5-Trichlorophenol Producers

Subject: Telephone Conversation with Edward Michaels, President of Nepacco, 23 August 1974.

On 23 August 1974, Matthew Zack interviewed Edward Michaels, President of Nepacco, Inc. (PO Box 270, Norwalk, Connecticut ; FTS 203-244-2000, phone no. 203-853-0016. Mr. Michaels said that Nepacco had made trichlorophenol to produce hexachlorophene at a plant in Verona, Missouri from about mid-1970 through 1971. The glycol process used there to make trichlorophenol was much more easily controlled than the more commonly used methanol process, so that dioxin concentrations in the trichlorophenol averaged 0.1 ppm although "still residues" may have averaged 15 ppm. Another company removed these residues for incineration from the Verona plant (he cannot now recall this company's name, but he promised to write or phone me next week to tell me its name after reviewing his records; note: I told him the date of Bliss' spraying and Bliss' name. He says that all the trichlorophenol made at Verona went to form hexachlorophene (in the presence of acid and formaldehyde). No detectable dioxin was in the hexachlorophene after crystallization. Because the market for hexachlorophene collapsed after reports of brain damage in young rats, Nepacco had to close its Verona plant in 1971. It was sold to Hoffman Taiff Co. then.

Mr. Michaels was surprised at the high soil dioxin concentrations (i.e., 60 ppm) we found. He mentioned other potential sources of dioxins near St. Louis: Transvall (making 2,4,5-Trichlorophenoxyacetic acid) in Arkansas; Monsanto (making polychlorinated biphenyl heat exchanger oils); and possible supplies of Agent Orange (with 30-60 ppm dioxins) at uncertain locations. He believed that "furans" may interfere with the analysis of the dioxins, perhaps explaining our high soil dioxin concentrations as artifact. He also said that the American Chemical Society has recently published a monograph on the dioxins.

Subject: Telephone Conversation with Rick Bagby, Plant Manager, Verona Plant, Syntex Corporation

In interviews with Judy Piatt, it was alleged that truck drivers for Russell Bliss, initially in 1972, claimed that the chemicals sprayed on Shenandoah Stables originated from a chemical company in Springfield, Missouri. Original inquiries failed to document any herbicide or 2,4,5-T production in Springfield, but communications with the Defense Contract Administration Services



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*Copy given to
Earl Borkley
April 18, 82
Dad [signature]*

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